

21 NCAC 08G .0409, is proposed to be amended as follows:

.0409 COMPUTATION OF CPE CREDITS

(a) Group Courses: Non-College. CPE credit for a group course that is not part of a college curriculum shall be given based on contact hours. A contact hour shall be 50 minutes of instruction. One-half credits shall be equal to 25 minutes after the first credit hour has been earned in a formal learning activity. For example, a group course lasting 100 minutes shall be two contact hours and thus two CPE credits. A group course lasting 75 minutes shall be only one and one-half contact hours and thus one and one-half CPE credits. When individual segments of a group course shall be less than 50 minutes, the sum of the individual segments shall be added to determine the number of contact hours. For example, five 30-minute presentations shall be 150 minutes, which shall be three contact hours and three CPE credits. No credit shall be allowed for a segment unless the participant completes the entire segment.

(b) Completing a College Course. CPE credit for completing a college course in the college curriculum shall be granted based on the number of credit hours the college gives the CPA for completing the course. One semester hour of college credit shall be 15 CPE credits; one quarter hour of college credit shall be 10 CPE credits; and one continuing education unit (CEU) shall be 10 CPE credits. However, under no circumstances shall CPE credit be given to a CPA who audits a college course.

(c) Self Study. CPE credit for a self-study course shall be given based on the average number of contact hours needed to complete the course. The average completion time shall be allowed for CPE credit. A sponsor must determine, on the basis of pre-tests, the average number of contact hours it takes to complete a course. CPE credit for self-study courses shall be limited so that a CPA completes at least eight hours of non-self study each year.

(d) Instructing a CPE Course. CPE credit for teaching or presenting a CPE course for CPAs shall be given based on the number of contact hours spent in preparing and presenting the course. No more than 50 percent of the CPE credits required for a year shall be credits for preparing for and presenting CPE courses. CPE credit for preparing for and presenting a course shall be allowed only once a year for a course presented more than once in the same year by the same CPA.

(e) Authoring a Publication. CPE credit for published articles and books shall be given based on the number of contact hours the CPA spent writing the article or book. No more than 25 percent of a CPA's required CPE credits for a year shall be credits for published articles or books. An article written for a CPA's client or business newsletter is not applicable for this CPE credit.

(f) Instructing a College Course. CPE credit for instructing a graduate level college course shall

be given based on the number of credit hours the college gives a student for successfully completing the course, using the calculation set forth in Paragraph (b) of this Rule. Credit shall not be given for instructing an undergraduate level course. In addition, no more than 50 percent of the CPE credits required for a year shall be credits for instructing a college course and, if CPE credit shall also be claimed under Paragraph (d) of this Rule, no more than 50 percent of the CPE credits required for a year shall be credits claimed under Paragraph (d) and this Paragraph. CPE credit for instructing a college course shall be allowed only once for a course presented more than once in the same year by the same CPA.